

American communities. In the nearly 365 days, Edith has been in sanctuary, my staff and I have met with her family, legal representatives, advocates, and community stakeholders.

#KEEPINGTHECRUMBS

(Mr. OLSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, like every American, every Member of Congress has a lower tax rate because of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. Every Democrat voted against this law. It was mocked as mere crumbs.

Well, folks back home have a question for House Democrats: #keepingthecrumbs?

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act ended the death tax. The junior Senator from California said repealing the death tax is “a giveaway to those at the top, not something that will create jobs.”

Here is a response from a friend back home in Fort Bend County, Dan McDonald. Dan says, “E-I-E-I-O.” Dan’s comments are echoed by those of Rosenberg Tractor’s Gary Allred. Gary says, “Getting rid of the death tax keeps jobs right now and adds jobs in the future because Texans can keep their lands, pass them on to their kids, grandkids, and great-grandkids for all eternity.”

Let’s step up and pass version 2 and get #keepingthecrumbs.

HONORING WARREN G. GOSS

(Mr. ROTHFUS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize U.S. Army Private First Class Warren Goss.

A western Pennsylvania native, Warren answered the call to defend his country and joined the U.S. Army in July of 1943 at the age of 18. He was deployed to the European theater where he underwent training for the D-day invasions as a rifleman.

Under heavy enemy fire and without air support, Warren and his fellow comrades were some of the first soldiers to bravely storm the beaches of Normandy, succeeding in their mission to secure a German communications tower.

Afterward, Warren was transferred to the 70th Division’s 274th K Company, where he continued to fight in France and across Europe until the end of the war.

Upon returning home, Warren met his wife, Mary, and fathered two daughters, Rhonda and Paula.

For his heroic actions to liberate France, Warren was recently made a Chevalier of the National Order of the Legion of Honour, France’s highest order of merit for military and civil merits.

Congratulations, Warren, on receiving this distinct honor, and thank you

for your valiant and selfless service to our Nation.

PAKISTAN IS STILL HARBORING TERRORISTS

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the State Department has released its annual country report on terrorism.

Terrorist attacks are down worldwide, but there are still frustrating details that we must expose. The biggest frustration is that Pakistan, a so-called major non-NATO ally, continues to harbor terrorist groups that target the United States and its allies.

The report says that the Taliban, the Haqqani Network, LeT, and JeM, all terrorist groups, they all still operate in safe havens in Pakistan. Some are able to raise money, recruit, and train in Pakistan.

For too long, I, as well as others, have come to this floor to point out Pakistan’s duplicitous behavior. When will we stop appeasing Pakistan and sending billions in American money to these fake friends, money that ends up in the hands of terrorists who make war on America?

We must designate Pakistan as a state sponsor of terrorism, then revoke their major non-NATO ally status. Then we must go after these terrorist groups.

And that is just the way it is.

□ 1645

THE TRAJECTORY OF GOVERNMENT SPENDING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SANFORD) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. SANFORD. Mr. Speaker, with due respect to my colleague from Oklahoma who has been kind enough to yield me a bit of time, what I am going to do is yield to him, ultimately, and he will take the bulk of this time.

I just was thinking the other night about the larger issue of government spending, and I would just like to walk through a couple of numbers here in a few minutes on its importance, because we have a big tax vote tomorrow. We had one today, and we had a vote before that, I guess the day before that, tied to spending and what the trajectory looks like on that front here at the Federal level.

But I want us to step back for one second and look at the bigger picture on why containing spending is so important and why it is not so important in our kids’ or grandkids’ time, but why it is so important right now.

I think it is interesting, if you were to look at the words of Erskine Bowles, the words of Sir Alex Fraser Tytler,

the words of Paul Kennedy, and the words of your local fifth grade elementary school teacher, what you would find is an amazing correlation between all four of them.

It was Erskine Bowles, who was, I guess, former President Clinton’s former Chief of Staff who said that we are walking toward the most predictable financial crisis in the history of man.

As we remember, they put together the Bowles-Simpson Commission of 2010. That ultimately led to the sequestration that we are in the process of getting rid of, but it was a “nuclear weapon” that said we have got to do something, yet we haven’t.

If you look at the words of Sir Alex Fraser Tytler, he was a Scottish historian who lived in the 1800s, and his words, after looking at world history over the whole of his life, were that a democracy cannot exist as a permanent form of government. It can only exist until the voters discover that they can vote for themselves largesse from the public treasury, with the result that a democracy always fails under loose fiscal policy and is generally followed by a dictatorship.

The average age of the world’s great civilizations has been 200 years. These nations have progressed through this sequence: from bondage to spiritual faith, spiritual faith to great courage, great courage to liberty, liberty to abundance, abundance to selfishness, selfishness to complacency, complacency to apathy, apathy to dependency, and dependency back again into bondage.

And indeed, if you look at the timeline of civilizations across the annals of history, what you see is that up and down of the way that civilizations have come and gone.

And it was Paul Kennedy, in his book “The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers,” who talked about how, traditionally, open political systems have basically spent their way into oblivion and that the largest thing that you used to be able to buy was a standing army—nowadays, the largest thing that you can buy is entitlement spending—but that in every instance, a civilization came to a tipping point wherein they had to decide: Do we go back to what made us competitive and, perhaps, a world power in the first place or not?

And that dovetails, actually, with another book that was written, entitled, “This Time It’s Different,” by professors from Harvard and University of Maryland. They looked at the last 800 years of financial history and they found, in every instance, civilizations got to this same point, which brings me back to the local fifth grade math teacher.

One plus one equals two, period. Numbers always work. Can they be manipulated? Yes. But at the end of the day, in the same way that gravity works, numbers work.

So I think that we just need to acknowledge that we are living in a weird